Sanitation and connectivity in Jharkhand

2712. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages of Jharkhand have been provided Mini Sewerage Plants;

(b) how many more villages are proposed to be provided Mini Sewerage Plants during the current financial year and the allocation made for the purpose;

(c) whether any proposal for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana has been received from Jharkhand;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what is the further planning to cover the rest of the villages by the roads which have not yet been connected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MS. AGATHA SANGMA): (a) Under Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC), there is no provision/component to provide Mini Sewerage Plants in villages. However, TSC has a component of Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM). Up to 10% of the TSC project cost can be utilized for meeting capital costs incurred under this component like low cost drainage, soakage pits etc. Rs.4062.55 lakh has been approved under this component for districts in Jharkhand and so far 244 villages have taken up works under this component.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The proposals received from the State of Jharkhand for construction of roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna (PMGSY), and approved by Ministry of Rural Development upto March, 2009 is as below:

Value of Projects	-	Rs.2087.64 crore
No. of roads	-	1651
Length in Km.	-	8164.46

(e) Further proposals for connecting balance unconnected habitations under PMGSY will be considered based on physical and financial progress of already sanctioned projects.

Study report on NREGS

2713. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Harvard Centre for Population and Development Studies has observed that the potential of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) for poverty reduction is not fully realised;

(b) whether the study has found that higher NREGS wages undermine the self-selection of the poor on it; and

(c) whether the study also warns that populists hikes in NREGS wages may further erode its potential for poverty reduction?